



## U.S. Department of Justice

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January 21, 2004

### **FREEPORT MAN SENTENCED TO 70 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR AIDING AND ABETTING ARMED ROBBERY OF UNION SAVINGS BANK IN FREEPORT**

ROCKFORD -- PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, together with THOMAS J. KNEIR, Special Agent-in-Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Chicago Field Office, JERRY WHITMORE, Chief of the Freeport Police Department, today made the following announcement:

United States District Court Judge Philip G. Reinhard today sentenced **NELSON KENNEDY**, 26 (DOB: 10/17/77), of Freeport, Illinois, to 70 months without parole for aiding and abetting the armed bank robbery of Union Savings Bank, 715 West South Street, Freeport, Illinois, on May 8, 2003. The court also ordered Kennedy to pay \$60 in restitution and a \$200 fine, and ordered that following release from prison, Kennedy be on supervised release for five years.

KENNEDY and his codefendant, ANTHONY GREEN, 38 (DOB: 4/14/65), also of Freeport, Illinois, were both arrested for bank robbery in Freeport on May 8, 2003, by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Freeport Police Officers. Both Kennedy and Green were indicted for that crime on June 3, 2003.

Kennedy pleaded guilty to aiding the armed bank robbery on November 4, 2003. At the time he pleaded guilty, Kennedy admitted that prior to May 8, 2003, he and Green had discussed the bank robbery and Kennedy had agreed to drive the get-away car. On the morning of May 8, 2003, Kennedy drove Green to the Union Savings Bank located at 715 West South Street, Freeport, Illinois.

Kennedy acknowledged in his plea agreement that Green, armed with a loaded .22 caliber revolver and wearing a baseball cap and safety glasses, entered the bank and presented a demand note to a teller. According to the plea agreement, Green then reached over the counter, and began to take money from the teller's counter. Kennedy admitted that when the teller tried to stop Green, Green pointed his gun at her and at another Bank employee standing nearby. The teller then let Green take three bundles of money containing a total of \$6,000 from the tellers' counter.

The plea agreement stated that Green, after fleeing from the bank, ran through a neighborhood. Kennedy admitted that Green stopped and hid some of the articles of clothing and the safety glasses he had worn during the robbery, as well as the .22 caliber revolver and \$5,940 of the money that Green had taken from the Bank. Those items, including the bank's money, were later recovered by Freeport Police officers. According to Kennedy, Green continued to run away from the bank until he saw Kennedy's car. Kennedy said he picked up Green in his car and drove away from the area.

On January 8, 2004, following a four-day jury trial, Green was found guilty of armed bank robbery, use of a firearm in the bank robbery, and being a felon in possession of a firearm. Sentencing for Anthony Green will be conducted on March 12, 2004, at 9:00 a.m. Armed bank robbery carries a maximum penalty of twenty-five years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. Possession of a firearm in furtherance of the bank robbery carries a mandatory consecutive penalty of five years and up to life imprisonment. Possession of a firearm by a felon carries a maximum sentence of ten years and a \$250,000 fine. The actual sentence will be determined by the United States District Court, guided by the federal Sentencing Guidelines and the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. Green will not be eligible for parole.

The case was investigated by Rockford office of the FBI and the Freeport Police Department. The case was prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney John G. McKenzie and Michael D. Love.

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